



**Lime Tree
Primary Academy**
BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Lime Tree Primary School
Budworth Road, Sale,
Cheshire M33 2RP
0161 905 0790
admin@ltpa.bright-futures.co.uk
www.limetrete.bright-futures.co.uk

Parent Forum – Friday 8th May, 9am In school and online via Zoom

Apologies to interrupted Zoom session

Homework

SLT continually looking at the offer – research shows that homework isn't very effective and can widen the learning gaps in the classroom due to the level of support and understanding at home for children completing homework. Workload vs impact need to be weighed up and balanced. Many school's moving away from conventional ideas of homework in an effort to support parents/carers to focus on basic skills and reinforcing this learning e.g., reading, phonics, times tables. Parents and carers shouldn't be expected to teach their children the curriculum however, repetition and practicing of these core knowledge values is invaluable. An example of this is learning to tell the time – Teachers will have a module to teach this to children in class, if this is repeated and practiced at home it will stay with the children long after the classroom learning ends.

Feedback

- Children don't receive feedback from returned homework, how do they know their work is correct if not being marked
- Difficulties using Google Classroom – not interactive, high schools have online platforms
- Inconsistent across year groups/key stages on how homework is given.
- Children asked to print and do it, or if no access to printer read the homework and online and write answers on paper, ask for printout of homework – this differs depending on which class teacher you ask
- Use of screenshots and illegible text not helpful, more time spent trying to translate

We are aware that Google classroom needs streamlining, tidying and archiving where required. Class comments have been switched off, however the ability to upload homework and message class teacher for support is still functional.

Teachers to have a consistent approach across key stages – Younger children will require parent/carer support – older children to be encouraged to access independently where possible to assist in transition to high school.

Other more interactive products have been researched, but come at a high cost to school.

We will be taking up the offer from a parent to assist teachers in a consistent approach

Knowledge Organisers

New concept – These were introduced following discussion at a previous Parents Forum.

They are shared at the end of the half term; for use the following half term.

Feedback

- Lots of work have gone in to them
- Great if you want lots of detail
- Previously discussed a summary for next term being sent
- Page per subject breaking down subject area

- unsure how many parents read it?
- Very long - was two pages per half term, 1 page per subject.

Staff are preparing the knowledge organisers for use anyway so it is clear for teachers and parents what the children will be learning in this school year. Key vocabulary is useful - School are showing parents what language the children will be expected to know, can plan books, trips etc around these.

ParentMail recap to be shared.

Communication and Engagement

Review of Parents voice since moving from Twitter to Instagram – are parents/cares accessing Instagram, is it proving engaging?

The school website is continually reviewed and updated with news links, events, curriculum, policies – Do parents/carers use the site and how?

Feedback

- Instagram – stories are being missed because they only last for 24hrs, reels need to be posts so parents/carers aren't missing anything.
- Website used for checking on events – Mainly used prior to their children starting school.

Use of Instagram and best way to share information – posts/story be picked up by Mrs Benton to circulate with all staff.

Plans to share news links and parent info via ParentMail, linking parents to website pages to reaffirm the school website with families.

Enrichment

Celebration assemblies ended and Lime Tree invited parents to attend last sessions instead.

We had a huge response from parents accessing these, which is amazing!

We really appreciate support from everybody, parents are delighted to be seeing their children and seeing on the ground what is happening.

We would like to gather feedback about this from parents; can always use email to provide any comments, will be introducing a short emoji style survey method of collecting this information – along with a more detailed survey shared via ParentMail.

We encourage as many parents as possible to take the time to share feedback with us, positive or negative, so we can use this to improve.

Feedback

- There was a lot of waiting around between end of session and end of school. Particularly in cold/wet weather. Could let parents leave to re-enter school and wait inside?
- Joining in with children much better than the previous assembly sharing all enrichment sessions.

Children have to get back in class by 3pm (all school) for safeguarding reasons. This allows for the gates to be opened at the main entrance. Parents are asked to leave the session at this time and to either leave school to continue their day or wait for their children to gather their belongings and prepare for the end of the school day. We appreciate this causes a little waiting time, but as many parents start to arrive at this time to collect their child it is difficult to consider a waiting space indoors that can be managed. Cannot let children leave early with parents as they may have siblings to collect. Which will have a knock on effect in their classrooms. Trying to find a best compromise solution – consistent end of session time in all enrichment areas. Feedback can support with this.

Ambassadors and Pupil Voice

In year 5/6 Children feel empowered and that they have an impact. Children are coming forward with their views and enjoying being listened too!

Examples of outcomes:

- Navy Polo Shirts due to girls requesting this for privacy reasons. Currently optional, new children coming in to school will be encouraged to be purchasing Navy.
- Use of the MUGA; equity of use discussed

- Lunch menu;
- EAL; support for Ramadan
- Fish concerns are they too cold? Poster went up to protect them
- Children shared they felt unsafe - when analysed further reference was made to the previous Lockdown process and Baguley Lane being wide open - 400 trees being planted to attempt to remedy this. Regular conversations held about safety.
- Sitting arrangements for lunch time
- Brain Buddies sessions are very well attended and enjoyed by children. We are always on the look out for games to add to our collection.

Feedback

Ramadan support is really appreciated; this is the age that children learn about fasting. Children will feel accepted and supported by their peers and community.

Feedback High School had an activity after school with food; activities etc. had a great community feel. Children love and remember these experiences. Happy for parents to contact us with ideas.

Constantly striving to improve how we work; struggle to find areas where we can improve our practice. Governors and Friends of Lime Tree posting questions, children answer on film, which are shared with, governors. Consultation with children about FOLT funds being used.

Ambassador News page on Website to be created and will be shared once live

Parent Views

Can be completed on Ofsted Parent View at any time, not just on Ofsted recommendations.

We value and welcome feedback from parents; can use this to improve our offer.

Question can more than one view be shared? How often can parents comment?

To be looked at.

AOB:

Choking Hazards

Government Statutory Guidance has been released for us to follow. Have had to look at how the rules can be implemented consistently across school. Impacted snack time, forest school, lunch, after school clubs etc We take choking seriously and encourage parents to support with this eg cutting grapes. There are not enough staff to support children on a 1:1.

Choking is hard to spot as is silent.

How often is Lockdown Training? This happened once with the children and will not be repeated.

Every room has instructions and staff are reminded frequently.

PE for year 4 did not go ahead this week. Clare to look in to this?

After School Club - could crafts be explored as an option to supplement Sports/Chess, since Ms Carter left. Staff are constantly striving to add to this offer.

Trips: More notice for volunteers would be helpful; this is sometimes unavoidable as it is dependent on staff availability, training absence at the time.

- **Thanks to all parent carers for support** – it was a busy week last week, all trips all linked to curriculum; Sale Waterside, Bridgewater Hall, Sale Water Park. Received good feedback from venues about uniform, behaviour making Lime Tree proud.

Reduced offer at Lime Tree due to funding – we are having to 'do more, with less', please can parents support with the £5 if in a position to do so. We are always looking for equipment, match funding, sponsors, bid writers, any parents with skills who may be able to help us with fundraising to improve our school!

Consider - Amazon Wish List for equipment for class, forest school, parent would love to be able to provide seeds, glue sticks etc.

Actions for School:

*Have print outs of knowledge organisers at parents evening to familiarise parents with summary about how to use it.

*Notify parents/carers when Ambassador/Pupil Voice page is live on the website.

*Direct parents/carers to Ofsted Parent View survey – ParentMail.